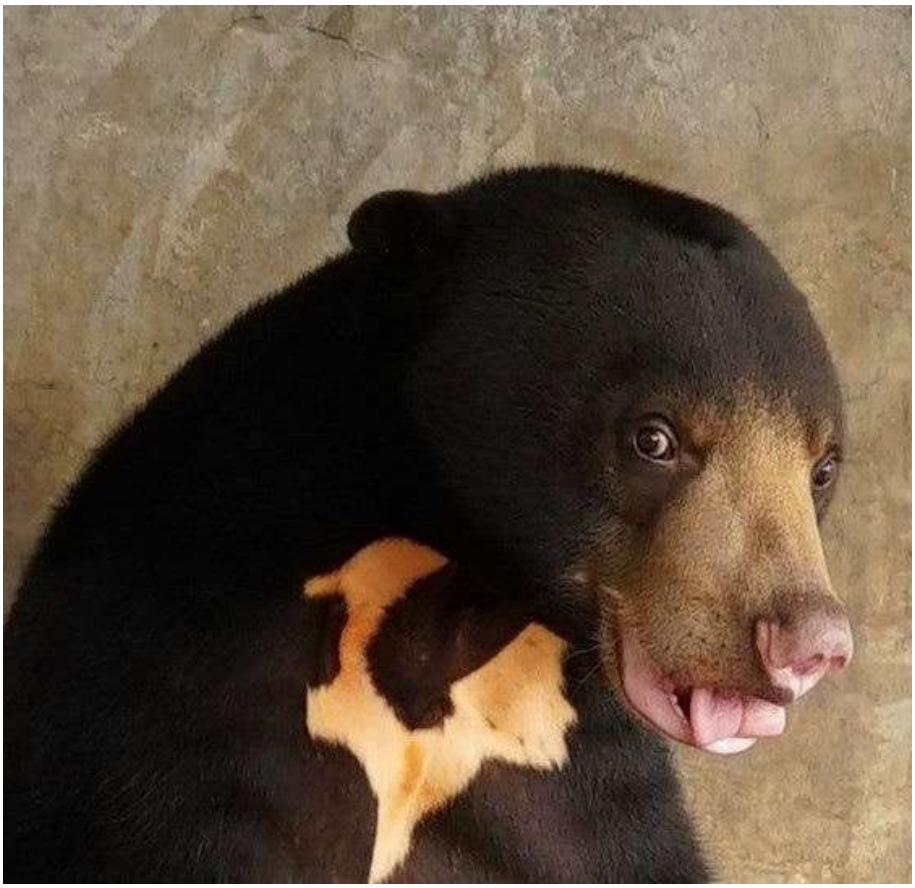
July 2019 - June 2020
ANNUAL REPORT

Sumatran Sun Bear Team



Our Mission:

Sumatran Sun Bear Team aims to both improve the chances of the survival of Sun Bears in the wild, by working with authorities and to provide a Sun Bear specific facility to care for rescued or confiscated Sun Bears.

Our Vision:

To see the Sumatran Sun Bear, other wildlife and their habitat protected and thriving with no human conflict.

Our History:

In 2013 we observed that there were many issues affecting the wildlife in Sumatra. Too general: everyone in zoos etc. knows that Sumatra has issues affecting wildlife; maybe: “In 2013 we decided that we wanted to be a part of solution to the issues affecting wildlife in Sumatra.” These issues are caused by human actions including illegal poaching for meat, other body products for trinkets or medicines, snaring, and habitat destruction. Sun Bear cubs kept as pets are usually as a result of the mother being killed, allowing the cub to be taken from the forest. It was recognised that there were no facilities to care for Sun Bears once the Government agencies rescue or confiscate bears. A purpose-built rescue centre was needed. By 2017 it was clear to us that no other established bear organisation, anywhere in the world was expanding into Sumatra. The Sumatran Sun Bear Team was formed with a diverse range of skilled personnel that set out with the goal of improving the welfare of Sun Bears in Sumatra in general, and by building the first Conservation and Rescue Centre for Sun Bears, and other animals as required, in Sumatra.

CONTENTS

Our Mission	Page 2
Our Vision	Page 2
Our History	Page 2
Section 1 – An overview of Sumatran Sun Bear Team	
About Us	Page 5
Our People	Page 5
Our Supporters	Page 7
Section 2 – Governance	
Structure & Management	Page 8
Directors Report	Page 8
Our Objectives and Activities	Page 11
Section 3 – Our Finances	
Financial Statements	Page 14
Section 4 – Our other important information	
Acknowledgements	Page 16
How you can help	Page 17
Looking to the Future	Page 18
Contact us	Page 19



ABOUT US

SSBT have a wealth of experience working in various animal care, education, veterinary nursing, zoo management, business management and humanitarian fields. We have board members with extensive experience in working with the world's smallest bear species, the Sun Bear. We are experienced in fundraising for animal and wildlife agencies and have volunteered at and visited many Sun Bear rescue facilities worldwide.

There are several fantastic conservation projects that are committed to helping Sun Bears in Southeast Asia, but after a trip to Sumatra in 2013, our Founder, Lesley Small was shocked to see that although many bears were being confiscated by the government from the wildlife trade, there was no specialised Sun Bear facility to take them in.

While many adult Sun Bears can be released after undergoing rehabilitation, many are not suitable for release. The Sun Bears that cannot be released normally end up in holding pens, often ending up in small cages indefinitely with little stimulation.

The Sumatran Sun Bear Team formed with the goal to create a rescue and conservation centre to ensure rescued Sun Bears in Sumatra have a safe home and specialised care, rehabilitate and release if possible.

The SSBT is in the process of fundraising to be able to purchase the land in Sumatra and build the rescue and conservation centre.

OUR PEOPLE

Board members/Trustees

Name	Position	Dates acted (if not for whole year)
Lesley Small	Founder, Director	Current period
Jonathan Minor	Treasurer, Director	Current period
Suzanne Thomas	Director	Current period
Lauren Spence	Secretary	2nd September - Current

Employees

We had no employees within this period.

Volunteers

Name	Position	Dates acted (if not for whole year)
Kimberly Vinette Herrin	Veterinary Advisor	Current period
Philip Stubley	Exhibit planner	3rd October 2019 - Current
Joshua Phillips	Social media Communicator	27th November 2019 - Current
Becca Wadkin	Business Development Manager	7th May 2020 - Current



Lesley Small
Founder, Director



Suzanne Thomas
Director



Jonathon Minor
Treasurer, Director



Lauren Spence
Secretary



Photo credit Pauline Forrester

Kimberly Vinette-Herrin MS, DVM, MANZCV
Veterinary Advisor



Philip Stubley
Exhibit Planner



Joshua Phillips BSc, BNatSc, MBiolSc
Social Media Communicator



Becca Wadkin
Business Development Manager

OUR SUPPORTERS

Black and Blanco Boutique law practice focussed on making law easy	**Wildlife HQ** Home to native and exotic animals from around the world, in Queensland	**National Zoo and Aquarium** 19 Hectare zoo in the Australian capital city of Canberra
Stay Wild – Tiger Protection Trust Tiger conservation focussed in North Sumatra	**Redcrow Digital** Web design, development, integrations, apps – a group of friendly, professional and focussed developers and designers	**Sun Bear Sunscreen** Products with a purpose: palm oil free and saving the world's smallest bear
Charlie Bucket & Co Content creators, marketing strategy and branding and social media	**Bornean Sun Bear Conservation Centre** Saving the world's smallest bear in Sabah	**Global Wildlife Construction** A charity to help fund the construction of wildlife rescue centres

STRUCTURE & MANAGEMENT

Sumatran Sun Bear Team is registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC).

Executive Board of directors SSBT

The Founder: Lesley Small has over 35 years of experience working in various animal fields including domestic, native and exotic Veterinary nursing, and Zoo Keeping with many species. She is currently a senior keeper of Carnivores at Sydney's Taronga Zoo (Taronga Conservation Society Australia, TCSA) where she has worked for the last 28 years.

Director: Suzanne Thomas has studied Zoology and spent time in Cameroon with the Cameroon Wildlife Aid Fund, (now called Ape Action Africa), then worked at Chester Zoo, U.K. as a zookeeper on the carnivore section followed by a move into the Education department as a teacher.

Director: Jonathan Minor has worked in the private sector, public service, research, and in not-for-profits for over 30 years. His early passion for the environment and animals resulted in a degree in Psychology and Animal Behavior from the University of California at Davis in the United States, where he trained as a primatologist. Jon has over 28 years of experience in animal and conservation programs and facility management of species within zoological settings across the US, Australia and Asia.

Company Secretary: Lauren Spence is a Registered Nurse with over 15 years' experience in Perioperative Nursing. She spent time in Bangladesh on a humanitarian mission with a team, providing essential surgical procedures to the poor local communities. After travelling to Sumatra to assist in a project with the Sumatran Sun Bear Team, Lauren saw first-hand the importance of an organisation to help save the Sun Bears in Sumatra and joined the board shortly after returning from the trip.

Directors Report

Significant events during this reporting period:

During 2019, Shardi Love, sisters saving Sun Bears, donated $1000 from money that they have raised by making craft, bookmarks, key rings and scented herb bags, as well as holding garage sales.

Our team were busy with a lot of support from many people to come together for a seminar at the Concord Sports Club. We hosted Sun Bear expert, Dr. Siew Te Wong, and senior Taronga Zoological Society Australia Veterinarian Dr. Larry Voglenest both delivered talks on the importance of a rescue center as well as good veterinary care for rescued Sun Bears. We produced the film that was created and donated by Charlie Bucket & Co. The film allowed our guests to see the work we are doing. Founder Lesley Small updated guests on our progress.

We like to support other organisations that are doing good work for Sun Bears. Through our social media site we promoted Operation Sun Bear Borneo - this project was under the organisation Orangutan Information Foundation (OIF) where a Sun Bear required urgent veterinary attention. This also raised awareness for our supporters of our desire to work with other organisations that have similar goals.

September 2019: SSBT were invited to attend the second Sun Bear Symposium in Sabah, Malaysia to represent Indonesia. A talk was given by our Founder, Lesley Small on behalf of SSBT to delegates from all over the world that are working for conservation of the Sun Bear in countries throughout Asia and Southeast Asia. There were also representatives from Zoological institutions, wildlife crime organisations and

veterinarians who work in the field of conservation. While in Malaysia, an arranged visit to the world-renowned Bornean Sun Bear Conservation Center was hosted by Siew Te Wong. This center is a good organisation to base our beliefs and values on and work towards providing a similar facility in Sumatra. Photographs of the type of fencing, den systems and locking pins were taken that can be used in the future for us to demonstrate how we will need to care for Sun Bears safely. During this time, Lesley flew into Medan and checked on the Medan Zoo Sun Bear exhibit that an SSBT team had renovated in June 2019.

While in Sumatra, Lesley checked in on a durian farmer and examined the solar-powered electric fence that we had donated in June. The fence was operating, the farmer reported that the fence was working and that he had not lost any durians to Sun Bears during the durian season. This is an important and very valuable occasion. It means that the farmer will still have an income from the durians and he will not feel the need to to threaten the Sun Bears who could have a negative impact on his financial welfare. It should also be said that we worked closely with the organisation Stay Wild, which operates around the Bukit Lawang area for the education and protection of Sumatran Tigers.

During this same trip, the SSBT Founder travelled to Lampung to meet up with NGO Jakarta Animal Aid Network, JAAN, and was fortunate to witness the work of the Wildlife Crime Investigation Network scent detection dogs, viewed some land that was offered for a future rescue centre, and saw their rescue centre facilities. From here we traveled to Jambi, Northern Sumatra to meet up with a team that have a Sun Bear in a government facility. The Sun Bear has been there for 18 months. We went there because the SSBT have been asked for assistance with the future of the young rescued Sun Bear, Berry. We are offering to help them with the design, function and funding to build a rehabilitation area where this bear will be able to rehabilitate as the government has plans to release her. We've produced a report with recommendations regarding diet, enrichment that will benefit her rehabilitation process, and recommendations to build the rehabilitation site that will safely protect her and better prepare her for release. We also held Skype meetings with the personnel involved to come to a resolution for the bear.

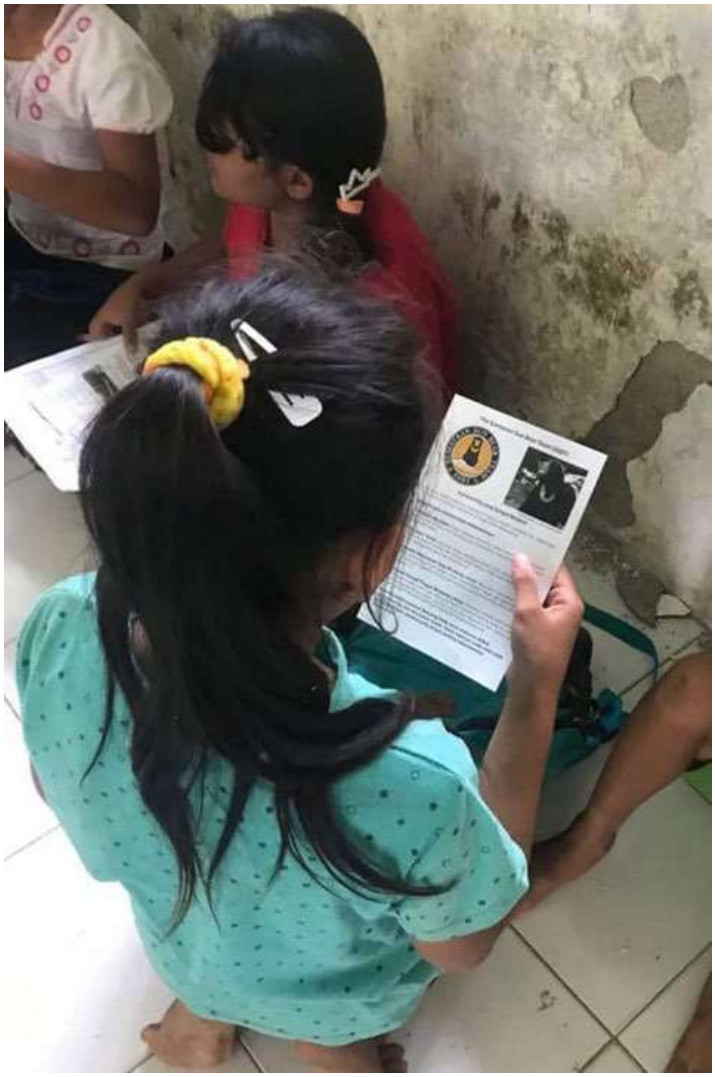
In November 2019: the SSBT were invited to attend the Association of Pet Dog Trainers conference that was held in the Hunter Valley The APDT hopes to enhance the human dog relationship by educating trainers and other animal professionals and the public about dog friendly training techniques. The SSBT were invited to show a short film about the work we undertake and our goal of having a specialized care and rehabilitation Center for Sun Bears on the island of Sumatra, to raise awareness to these like-minded delegates, we also held a stall to sell merchandise and gain supporters.

During March 2020: We traveled to Northern Sumatra to visit organisations ISCP and Stay Wild. Our Founder, Lesley was shown a young Sun Bear cub, Uca, a victim of the illegal wildlife trade, has been rescued and is being held in the facilities of the BKSDA, a government organisation in Berastagi. We have given dietary advice and we provided enrichment for the cub. Like any human or animal. the health and wellbeing of a young Sun Bear is determined by the care it receives. The physical and emotional connections to people are incredibly important at this stage, as Uca was without the comfort of her mum, and this advice was strongly emphasised to her carers. The SSBT is supporting Uca to give her the best existence, regardless of whether wshe is able to be released, or will be in long term care.

While in Northern Sumatra, SSBT were invited by Stay Wild – Tiger Protection Trust to Lau Damak school near Bukit Lawang to help with their educational programs. We spoke to the children and provided them with information sheets on wildlife in general, and the type of habitat in which Sun Bears live. SSBT were able to talk about the importance and benefits to the forest of having Sun Bear populations in their forests. We gave the children colouring pages of Sun Bears, handed out bi-lingual information brochures that we created to take home for their parents to read, and to see what the children had engaged with that day.



Educational materials the SSBT supplied to the children


Children reading the bi-lingual educational reading material

OUR OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Current Situation

At present in Sumatra there are no organisations specifically working to protect the Sun Bear. In a land of over 50 million people, the major threats to this species are significantly enhanced.

The Indonesian Government try to enforce their laws on the illegal wildlife trade by confiscating illegally kept Sun Bears, yet they have nowhere suitable for the species to be adequately housed or rehabilitated with their facilities, resulting in them then spending their lives in cages that are far too small, frequently barren and offer nothing by means of stimulation, enrichment or exercise. With no specialist rehabilitation facilities, the chances of Sun Bears surviving if returned to the wild are extremely poor. With Government holding capacity stretched, there are currently no other alternatives for the bears except to be placed in a zoo that is also exceptionally under resourced and wholly insufficient for their needs, often with grossly inappropriate husbandry and welfare standards which can cause further physical and mental harm to the animals.

If an adult Sun Bear is accidently snared, there is little chance that it can survive if it is not found quickly, receives rapid veterinary intervention, and is released within a short time. Sun Bears released without the correct procedures will almost certainly die. There are no education programmes to teach local people about species conservation and biodiversity to preserve the health of the forest, without which the threats of habitat destruction, snaring and illegal poaching will only increase. There is no assistance for local farmers to avoid human / bear conflict whilst protecting their livelihoods, putting Sun Bears under threat from farmers who have lost crops to the Sun Bear and have no knowledge of, or access to, preventative measures.

Sumatran Sun Bear Team are a newly formed Australian Charity established in 2017 with the goals of rescuing and protecting the Sun Bears in Sumatra. We are working towards building the first Rescue and Conservation Centre on the island to provide Sun Bears with the best possible chance of survival.

We are looking to secure suitable land in Sumatra that will be ideal for rescued Sun Bears to rehabilitate with plentiful opportunities to engage in natural behaviours. Sumatran Sun Bear Team will work to develop and maintain a robust partnership with the Indonesian Government to support enforcement of their laws on the illegal wildlife trade involving Sun Bears, as well as other species when required. We will run tailored educational programmes for various ages and demographics. The Sumatran Sun Bear Team will offer local people meaningful employment within their community in building and working at the Rescue and Conservation Centre to build a caring, competent and thriving workforce and support the local people by attracting additional income into the economy by facilitating ecotourism prospects, offering study and research opportunities for students internationally to get involved in the project and establishing a wholly local supply chain. We will get biologists into the field to obtain up-to-date data, and use this to facilitate the sourcing of suitable release sites for the most apt bears, as well establishing anti-snare patrols in Sun Bear populated areas. We also will engage with Indonesian zoos where we can; Sumatran Sun Bear Team are already negotiating with several zoos in Sumatra in an effort to build trust. We are also making progress in talking with Sun Bear keepers to increase husbandry and welfare standards for the Sun Bears.

Some of our recent proud accomplishments include:

1. We were alerted to a farmer in the Bukit Lawang region who had discovered that Sun Bears were taking durian fruits from his property and found that this was affecting his livelihood. We identified that this was a legitimate case of human / bear conflict after visiting the property and confirming evidence of Sun Bear raiding. We proceeded to donate a solar-powered electric fence and provided assistance and direction regarding the installation of this to prevent the bears from taking his valuable fruit and damaging his profits. We have been told that there no fruit was taken at all during the following durian season. Without our intervention, these bears would have almost certainly been killed by this frustrated man desperate to safeguard his business against further catastrophic financial loss.

2. We have produced bilingual information brochures to support the facilitation of conversations with local people and children at a school regarding the forest wildlife in their locality, and the importance of maintaining and preserving the ecosystem and buffer zones close to human settlement. We have discussed how important it is to have Sun Bears and other wildlife in the forests, both for the health of the forest and for their local economy as a tourist region. It was an ideal opportunity to excite local people about species conservation and biodiversity, to provide vital education, and to inspire the community to take an active role in saving Sun Bears. Feedback from participants was exceptionally positive and we feel sure that the important messages we delivered will stay with people and encourage them to change their attitudes and behaviours regarding their perception and treatment of wildlife.

3. After numerous attempts to assist Medan Zoo, we were given permission to modify their Sun Bear exhibit and assist their keepers in protocol. This was a huge accomplishment, as there had been significant recent negative press associated with this zoo and their Sun Bears. The zoo eventually agreed to let us help them. We took four experienced staff out to the zoo, including Lesley Small and four other Australians with building experience, and two local staff from another Indonesian NGO; Stay Wild. We worked on the barren outdoor enclosure and dens for five Sun Bears. We built two wall mounted hammocks, a hanging hammock, a mulch foraging pit, a climbing structure and five bed boards for the dens and donated behavioural enrichment items including logs and foraging toys. We left the Keepers with expert husbandry advice. The Sun Bears there show extreme stereotypic behaviours and therefore our work has ensured that through access to enrichment and stimulation, their daily routines and psychological states should improve. It is hoped that this input will also transcend to the other exhibits and encourage other VCSEs and more affluent zoos to collaborate with other less funded zoos to support them, thereby improving the conditions for their captive animals.



SSBT Presenting the durian farmer with the electric fence.

Planned activities for the upcoming financial year/reporting period

1. Sumatran Sun Bear Team's primary goal is to establish the very first purpose built Sun Bear Rescue and Conservation Centre in Sumatra, actively delivering a wide ranging programme of positive and targeted interventions. This will allow us to assist in the protection of the species, to combat the abundant threats to its survival, and initiating progressive systemic transformation within Sumatra and thereby providing Sun Bears with the best possible chance of avoiding local extinction. We intend to purchase unspoiled land in Sumatra upon which to construct the Centre. We will continue to establish relationships to work closely alongside Indonesian Government officials through the establishment of robust partnership agreements. We will provide purpose-built facilities for four bears currently in Government care in Aceh. This project will also generate considerable benefit to the people of Sumatra in terms of employment and skills as well as tourism.
2. We will finalise our location based on local support, suitable land to provide rescued bears the best possible outcome for their future of either release if they are deemed suitable and we have confidence that they can survive, or provide them with a permanent home.
3. We will join an established Yayasan (Indonesian organisation) that already has relevant and conservation goals and mission consistent with ours. We will obtain the relevant legal structure that will support our organisation working with the Indonesian Government.
4. Delivering our long-term project will create meaningful employment for local people within their community both in building and working at the Rescue and Conservation Centre for many years to come. We aim to build a caring, competent and thriving workforce who reflect our values of conservation, welfare and partnership, and who possess critical skills in construction, maintenance and animal care, amongst many other important attributes. We will seize the opportunity to further support local people by attracting additional income into the local economy, establishing a local supply chain for the materials and equipment required to build the facility. Once the construction of the Rescue and Conservation Centre is complete and the facility becomes operational, we will be in a position to further expand upon this opportunity by facilitating ecotourism prospects, offering study and research opportunities for students internationally to get involved in the project and maintaining a local supply chain for the materials and equipment required for the day to day running of the Centre and attracting further revenue to Sumatran businesses within the immediate area. We endeavour to generate a substantial amount of income to sustain the day to day operation and running costs for the Rescue and Conservation Centre by opening the Centre to the public, for paid admission day visits, offering fee based voluntary opportunities, and fee based study and research opportunities for international students. We will offer the purchase of sponsorship packages to cover the costs of looking after the Sun Bears in our care. The deployment of these initiatives will enable us to maintain ongoing financial viability and deliver longer term value for the initial money invested to establish the Centre. This will place us in a strong position as an internationally recognised charity dedicated to advocating progressively and innovatively for the conservation and welfare of Sun Bears, and leading the way in working in partnership with critical stakeholders to influence improvement of the prospects for the species.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Sumatran Sun Bear Team Limited
ABN: 42 625 848 544

Income and Expenditure Statement
For the year ended 30 June, 2020

		2020	2019
Income			
	Sales	4312.17	3420.81
	Interest received		0.27
	Commissions received	4.9	
	Donations	4732.89	15625
	Fundraising	5610.05	3996.02
	Total Income	14660	23042.1
Expenses			
	Accounting	715	
	Promotion Logo Tournament		
	Bank fees & charges	118	78
	Conference/seminar costs	2587.2	
	Currency losses		129.48
	Contract payments	93.4	3811.08
	Fees & charges		
	Legal fees		560
	Materials & supplies	1237.26	2322.79
	Postage	10.95	
	Primary & stationery		248
	Project costs	412.88	3810.29
	Travel, accommodation		1724.52
	Web Hosting	454.2	
	total Expenses	5628.89	12684.2
	Profit from ordinary activities before income tax	**9031.12**	**10357.9**
	Income tax relating to ordinary activities	0	0
	Net profit attributable to the association	**9031.12**	**10357.9**
	Total changes in equity of the association	**9031.12**	**10357.9**
	Opening retained profits	12926.8	2568.87
	Net profit attributable to the association	9031.12	10357.9
	Closing retained profits	**21957.9**	**12926.8**



Beautiful ancient tree in Ketembe, Aceh, Sumatra

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS & THANK YOU

We are extremely grateful for our supporters, donors and to people giving us their time and expertise. Thank you for having the faith in us to care for Sun Bears in Sumatra, the ones that have been taken from their natural world and for the ones who need protection in the wild environment. We promise that we will always endeavour to honour your trust in us and deliver the best outcomes for all of the Sun Bears and other animals that come our way who need us.

Donors

We have had many donors who have collectively helped us with some of our small projects and no matter how small the donation is, we are extremely grateful.

Shardi Love, two young sisters who are very inspirational in creating ways to raise funds to save Sun Bears. They paint, draw and create lovely gift items and sell them. They have also held garage sales for the benefit of the bears.

Pauline Wilson, for the last two years, has dedicated her birthday party to raise funds for our cause, and we thank her very much for asking that no presents be given to her - she chooses to instead hold raffles on the day providing all of the prizes herself. A very thoughtful act.

Paul Zillman, A supporter from Queensland who held café trivia nights with some of the locals, spreading awareness and raising funds.

Grants and funding

Recipient of the 2020 Australian Society of Zookeepers (ASZK) “Bowling for Conservation”. Each year all Australasian Zoos hold a fund-raising event on the same day, that is coordinated by the ASZK. This is usually a bowling event, however trivia nights are also held. It is through competitive selection and we were awarded this as recognition for our work and our goals. However, due to Covid19 the events need to be postponed until 2021. We thank the ASZK board for supporting our organisation.

Corporate & community partners

Wildlife HQ Zoo holds an awareness and fund-raising event on the birthday of their Sun Bear Maly. The funds raised over the last two years were donated to SSBT. We were invited to last year’s event where we also had a stall and spoke about the plight of the Sun Bear and other wildlife in Sumatra.

National Zoo and Aquarium, Canberra, continued to support us this year. In previous years they have held a Trivia night to support us - with special mention to Caitlin Gilchrist. Their generosity was also greatly appreciated for the donation of a voucher at our July 2019 seminar for deluxe National Zoo based accommodation.

Sun Bear Sunscreen donated a large amount of their product that we have been able to sell at events. They also provided us with a small film that they created when they travelled with SSBT to Sumatra, filming the rescued Sun Bears in Aceh, and a durian farmer receiving his solar powered electric fence to use as a tool to prevent human/bear conflict.

Redcrow Digital have donated their time and expertise setting up our website ensuring any online enquiries or funding come to us easily.

Stay Wild -Tiger Protection Trust are an NGO that has a team in Northern Sumatra. We have worked with them when they encounter wildlife issues involving Sun Bears. Their Founder Vanessa Rowe invited us to a local school to talk to the young children regarding wildlife awareness and education.

Bornean Sun Bear Conservation Centre, based in Sabah, Malaysia, have extensive knowledge on the Sun Bear and we are using their organisation as our model. The CEO Dr. Siew Te Wong has visited Sumatra on two occasions to help SSBT source suitable land. Wong also visited Australia last year to present a talk at our seminar.

Volunteers

Joshua Phillips BSc, BNatSc, MBiolSc, Social Media Communicator.
Philip Stubley, Exhibit Planner.
Kimberly Vinette-Herrin MS, DVM, MANZCV, Veterinary Advisor.
Becca Wadkin, Business Development Manager.

Members

SSBT Have not yet sought members. This is planned for the 2020-2021 period.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Become a member
We will be arranging this soon, so please send us your interest to info@sumatransunbearteam.org We will keep your details and contact you once we are ready.

Volunteer your time
We are always interested in hearing from people who would like to volunteer their time to help our cause. Let us know how you would like to volunteer, and we will respond. Right now, we aren't ready to take volunteers to Sumatra, but that's something we are working towards.

Make a donation
If you're thinking about donating, thank you. Go to https://sumatransunbearteam.org/ and see the "Donate" button. You can also make a direct deposit via SSBT BSB 06 2445, Account 1113 7608

Leave a bequest
If you wish to make a bequest, we promise that it will go towards saving Sun Bears in Sumatra. Discuss this decision with our team through our Secretary, Lauren- lauren@sumatransunbearteam.org

Support an event or fundraising activity
We would love to hear from you, share your ideas, and we will work with you to guide you through a process for the best possible outcome for the bears, info@sumatransunbearteam.org

Become a corporate partner
Thank you for considering becoming a corporate partner. We would love to discuss any ideas you may have to form a corporate partnership. Email our Founder and Director, Lesley at lesley@sumatransunbearteam.org

Other ways you can help our cause
Share our social media posts, raise our profile, contact us for questions or anything that you would like to contribute to at SSBT. Let us know if you can raise awareness through media, or invite us to give talks to groups or large events that can help progress our cause. This can all be discussed with one of our team at info@sumatransunbearteam.org

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

Our future is looking busy. For Sumatran Sun Bear Team to deliver upon all our strategic objectives, we require sufficient financial resource.

Four Bears in Aceh: We have recently been given permission to build larger holding facilities for four (4) Sun Bears that are currently in a Government University in Banda Aceh, Sumatra. They will allow us just 300 m² to build on their Government land. We were first alerted in 2018 to 1 bear there, "Cantik", an adult female who had her right front paw caught in a snare. She needed to have it surgically removed as it was too long before there was intervention. She is in what is called an "orangutan cage". It's small, divided into four quarters. Each quarter is approx. 2 m². Then also in 2018 a young confiscated male cub joined her. In 2019, a third bear was placed in this same cage, separated by dividers. He, an adult bear was rescued from a snare and needed a hind leg portion removed. Then came a fourth bear, another young female cub – entire physically, yet with no forest skills and emotionally affected due to missing out on the 2-3-year long-term mothering she would have received. We have drawn up provisions that will include 5 dens and 2 enclosures, each with a sub-introductory enclosure – i.e. all four bears can go outside and if they look mutually accepting, they can be placed together and all enjoy the total of 300 m² - plus den space. We will be seeking approval to transfer them to our planned permanent site where all of the bears can have facilities to rehabilitate and behave like a wild bear.

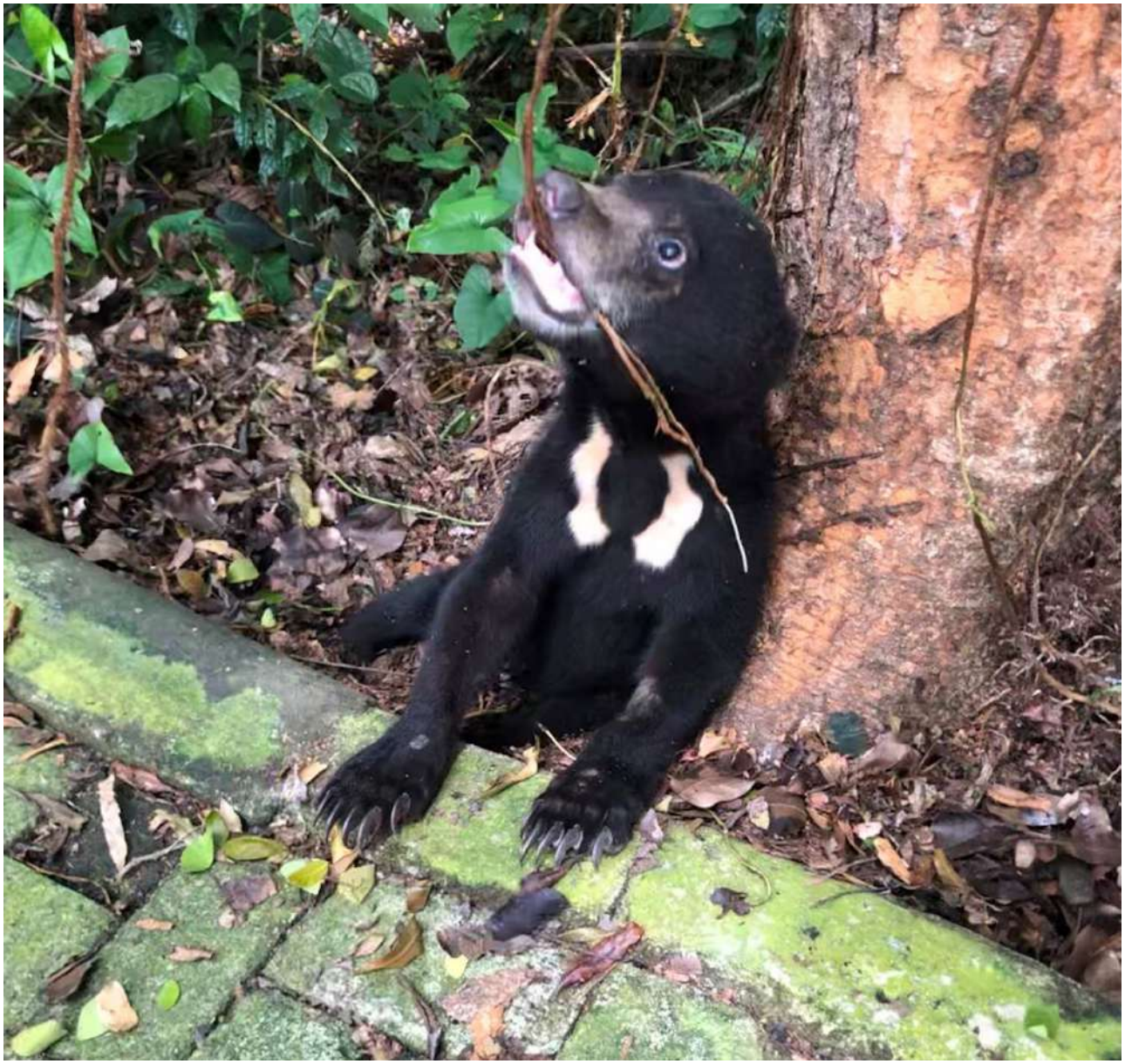
Build on land in Aceh: Land has been offered to us from an existing Indonesian NGO in Aceh. We will be joining forces with them, Last of the Wild Places (LWP). LWP was Founded by an Australian and we have commenced forming a partnership with them. We will need to construct our Rescue and Conservation Centre, which forms our most significant cost. Stage 1 will be a Veterinary clinic with holding provisions for Sun Bears and other species for recovery and quarantine. Construction materials, equipment and labour will be expensive. Stage 2 are the main enclosures that will be spacious, naturalistic and high quality, but they also must be sufficiently equipped to safely house bears that are classified as dangerous. This will be a costly outlay and require relevant design and construction expertise to achieve.

Day to day operation and running costs of the Rescue and Conservation Centre, including the costs of staffing resource, food stocks, veterinary treatment, cleaning materials, site maintenance, general utilities and replacement equipment, will require generation of recurrent revenue. Work carried out in the community will additionally come at a cost. Donating materials, labour and equipment to local farmers to support them to protect their livelihoods whilst avoiding human / bear conflict is likely to be costly. We also require resource to produce learning materials in order to deliver our tailored educational programmes to local people to teach them about species conservation and biodiversity to preserve the health of the forest.

We have some preliminary figures for building stages 1-2 on this land in the province of Aceh, Sumatra. Our Wildlife Veterinarian is working with us to design the Veterinary Clinic and quarantine provisions.

"Berry" in Jambi: There is another Sun Bear in Jambi city, a young female who has been in a Government facility for 2 years. She is destined to be released. In 2019 SSBT visited her and the team caring for her. The team in Jambi have agreed to allow the bear to have an area of land where she can gain some strength and skills to at least give her some chance to survive in the wild. SSBT have visited the rehabilitation area and have made several recommendations to better her chances of survival. We have written a report, but it involves costs that we can't fully provide yet.

"Uca" in Beristagi: A more recent Sun Bear also in a Government facility in Berastagi, Northern Sumatra. A very young female cub who we visited in March 2020. Upon arrival we saw that she was in a bird cage. While we were there, she was moved to an approx. 3 m² square primate cage. The SSBT have contacts with the people who have "fostered" her, but she is still under Government care. With funding, she could also have better housing built on the Government site, while we get our Centre built and ask for her to come to our centre for the expert care that she needs and deserves where she can be rehabilitated.



CONTACT US

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